REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 20, 2003, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 remain pending in the application. Claims 1-3 have been allowed. Claims 4-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. With regard to the rejection of claims 4 and 9, the Examiner has set forth a proposed a substitute recitation. Applicant has amended Claims 4 and 9 accordingly.

With regard to the rejection of claim 5, the Examiner indicates that two aspects of the recitation of the formula are not clear. Therefore, Applicant has amended claim 5 to include a clarifying final clause.

As a final matter, with regard to the Examiner's statement for allowance, Applicant would note that the allowable claim 1 describes stimulating light being collected away from a light receiving face of the sensor.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 1-9 are in condition for allowance.

Therefore it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Appln. No. 09/987,087

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 41,239

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

washington office

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 20, 2004